1: Roth--55-56
116, 548, 609, 831

(No date) 1890

Tasmanians

"...when the aggressiveness of the natives was making the life of the settlers fearfully unsecure, Mr. Brodribb said, 'Fourteen years ago there was a constant communication between the stock-keepers and the female natives, but that did not excite ill-blood in the males; the men would offer to give up their wives for bread; but did not feel indignant at the intercourse they permitted.' But here again the evidence is contradictory. Mr. Robert Thirkell 'found them a peaceful and inoffensive race of people... He never considered it necessary to carry firearms to protect himself against them... Mr. Thirkell considered any injury sustained by the white people was entirely occasioned by their own ill-usage of the females.' The Hon. C. Meredith did not agree with the [56] idea: 'Among the blacks there was no such feeling as jealousy, and it was notorious to the early settlers that the blacks were in the habit of forcing their gins to visit the whites in order to obtain what they could from them' (Papers, etc. Roy. Soc. Tas. Aug. 1873)."

"...Calder (Journ. p. 10) says, 'The natural propensity of the domesticated black females to be with their own people, operated on them, and they became the instructors, in mischief at least, of the wild natives, and, strangely enough, were foremost in every aggression on the whites, by whom, with hardly an exception, they had been treated with unvarying kindness.' Accepting this statement as correct, there can only be two reasons for such conduct on the part of the women, either they had not been treated well by the whites or they wished to gain favour with their own men, who were jealous at their freedom with the white men."